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CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP			WOO, RICHARD SUKYOON	
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PASADENA, CA 91109-7068			PAPER NUMBER	

3629

DATE MAILED: 10/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/585,025

Applicant(s)

LINGLE ET AL.

Examiner

Richard Woo

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 July 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-79 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-79 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>09-24, 07-15, 04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

- 1) Applicant's amendment filed July 13, 2004 has been entered.
- 2) Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 29 and 52 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. The new ground of rejection has been necessitated by the newly added limitations as follows: "printing wizard..., wherein the printing wizard determined top, center, or bottom... charging the user", "server subsystem for communicating an ... if there is a new software", and "communicating an authorization to ...; verifying whether ...; and downloading a new software..."
- 3) The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 4) Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kara (US 5,825,893) in view of Slayden et al. (US 5,680,629).

W.R.T. Claim 1:

Kara discloses a system comprising:

a client subsystem for interfacing with a user comprising:

a GUI for installing software for printing the value bearing item (see Figs.

2-8 and the description thereof);

a GUI for registering the user in the system (see Id.); and

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a printing wizard for managing the printing of the VBI (see Fig. 8); and
a server subsystem for transmitting an authorization message to the client subsystem for authorizing the client subsystem to print the VBI while the server subsystem is in communication with the client subsystem (see Figs. 1 and 10; col. 4, lines 1-15; see Claim 1).

However, Kara does not specifically disclose the system including the printing wizard, wherein the printing wizard determines top, center, or bottom offset and prints the VBI without charging the user.

Slayden et al. teaches, for a printing wizard, that the wizard determines top, center or bottom offset and prints the document without charging the user (see Figs. and the descriptions thereof).

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to one having ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the printing wizard, which determines top, center or bottom offset and prints the document, into the system of Kara, as taught by Slayden et al., for the purpose of providing the user of the GUI to preview the margin, offset and orientation of the file so as to further edit and print the proper, accurate output.

W.R.T. Claim 2: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the VBI bears postage value;

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W.R.T. Claim 5: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the client subsystem includes a GUI for specifying a payment method (see Figs. 4A-B, 8 in Kara);

W.R.T. Claim 6: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system including a GUI for making changes to the user's information (see typical window based GUI in Slayden et al.);

W.R.T. Claim 7: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the client subsystem includes a GUI for displaying the user information, account information (see Figs. 4A-B, 8 in Kara);

W.R.T. Claim 8: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the account information includes an amount of credit left in the account (see Id.);

W.R.T. Claim 9: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the client subsystem includes a GUI for specifying an address book from a plurality of address books to print the address (see Fig. 8 and the description thereof in Kara);

W.R.T. Claim 10: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the client subsystem includes a GUI for entering a password to store the entered password and verify the password in the server subsystem (see Supra registration and installation);

W.R.T. Claim 11: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the server subsystem includes an address matching module for verifying an address entered by the user (see Fig. 10 in Kara);

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W.R.T. Claim 12: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the GUI for installing software includes a GUI for the user to specify the type of connection to the computer network (see col. 9, lines 8-10 in Kara);

W.R.T. Claim 13: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the GUI for installing software includes a GUI for reporting error messages to the user (see Figs. depicting "warning messages" in Kara);

W.R.T. Claim 14: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the GUI for installing includes a GUI for canceling an installation process (see Fig. 2 for installation process. Obviously, the user can cancel the installation by not following the process, e.g. entering wrong information, not inserting a pertinent disk or not connecting the pertinent device in Kara);

W.R.T. Claim 15: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the GUI for registering the user includes a GUI for entering user information (see Supra installation and registration);

W.R.T. Claim 16: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the GUI for registering includes a GUI for offering the user a plurality of service plan and for selecting by the user a service plan for choice (e.g. see Fig. 8 for the service plan or choice that the user can select in Kara);

W.R.T. Claim 17: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the GUI for registering includes a GUI for reporting error messages to the user (see Fig. 7, for the messages in Kara);

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W.R.T. Claim 18: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the GUI for registering includes a GUI for canceling a registering process (see Supra the cancellation process for installation);

W.R.T. Claim 19: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the GUI for managing the printing includes a GUI for displaying a graphical image of the VBI (see Fig. 8 in Kara);

W.R.T. Claim 20: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system wherein the GUI for managing includes a first GUI for printing a quality assurance VBI on an envelope (typical window word based applications can perform this);

W.R.T. Claim 21: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system wherein the GUI for managing includes a second GUI for displaying selectable choices of a printed quality assurance VBI (see Id.);

W.R.T. Claim 22: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system wherein the GUI for managing includes a GUI for troubleshooting selected printing options (see Typical window based applications in Slayden et al.);

W.R.T. Claim 23: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the GUI for managing includes a GUI for providing envelope options (see Figs. 8-9 in Kara);

W.R.T. Claim 24: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the GUI for managing includes a GUI for providing label options (see Fig. 8 in Kara);

W.R.T. Claim 25: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the GUI for managing includes a GUI for providing postage options (see Id.);

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W.R.T. Claim 26: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system wherein the GUI for managing includes a GUI for reporting error messages to the user (see Supra Window applications);

W.R.T. Claim 27: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the GUI for managing includes a GUI for canceling a print process (see Fig. 8 for the typical printing GUI that must include the cancel option {under the "File" or other Dropdown window option} for the print process in Kara); and

W.R.T. Claim 28: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the GUI for specifying a payment method includes a GUI for displaying credit card information field to be filled by the user when the user specifies a credit card for the payment method (col. 11, lines 47-53 in Kara).

As for Claims 3-4:

The modified system of Kara discloses the invention as cited above, but does not specifically disclose the subject matters of Claims 3-4, and 6: wherein the VBI is a ticket; the VBI is one or more of a coupon, a voucher and a check.

At the time the invention was made, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to a person of ordinary skill in the art to: make a ticket, one or more of a coupon, a voucher and a check; and make changes to the user's information because Applicant has not disclosed that having the limitations of Claims 3-4 provides an advantage, is used for a particular purpose, or solves a stated problem. One of ordinary

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skill in the art, furthermore, would have expected Applicant's invention to perform equally well with the modified system of Kara because the modified system of Kara discloses the system for registration, installation and printing the VBI, wherein the various GUI are utilized to execute the registration, installation and printing process, and it is well known in the art to include the other types of GUIs for executing the features as specified in Claims.

Therefore, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to further modify the modified system of Kara to obtain the invention as specified in claims.

5) Claims 29-79 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kara (US 5,825,893) in view of Parthesarathy et al. (US 6,353,926).

W.R.T. Claim 29:

Kara discloses a system comprising:

an installation wizard including a GUI for downloading and installing software for postage printing from a server connected to a computer network (see Figs. 2-10 and the descriptions thereof);

a registration wizard including a GUI for facilitating the registration of a user using a user computer with the system (see Id.); and

a printing wizard including a GUI for facilitating printing of a postage indicium (see Fig. 8 specifically), wherein the server transmits an authorization message to the user for authoring the printing the VBI.

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However, Kara does not expressly disclose the system, wherein the server system includes an auto update service for verifying whether the user is running a latest software and downloading a new software update to the client subsystem, if there is a new user software.

Parthesarathy et al. teaches, for an auto updating system, that the system is verifying whether the user is running a latest software and downloading a new software update to the client subsystem, if there is a new user software (see Figs. 1-5 and the descriptions thereof).

At the time the invention, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the system of Kara such that the system includes an auto update service for verifying whether the user is running a latest software and downloading a new software update to the client subsystem, if there is a new user software, as taught by Parthesarathy et al., for the purpose of providing the user of the auto update service so as to detect whether the user is running a latest software and downloading a new software update to the client subsystem, if there is a new user software.

W.R.T. Claim 30: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the registration wizard includes a GUI for specifying a payment method (see col. 11, lines 25-53; Figs. 4A-B in Kara);

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W.R.T. Claim 31: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the GUI for specifying a payment method includes a GUI for displaying credit card information field to be filled by the user (col. 11, lines 47-53 in Kara);

W.R.T. Claim 32: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system wherein the registration wizard includes a GUI for making changes to the user's information (see typical window applications being able to perform this task);

W.R.T. Claim 33: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the registration wizard includes a GUI for displaying the user information, account information (see Fig. 3 in Kara);

W.R.T. Claim 34: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the account information includes an amount of credit left in the account (see Figs. 4A-B, 8 in Kara);

W.R.T. Claim 35: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the installation wizard includes a GUI for specifying an address book from a plurality of address books to print the address (see Supra Claim 9);

W.R.T. Claim 36: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the registration wizard includes a GUI for entering a password to store the entered password and verify the password in the server subsystem (see Supra Claim 10);

W.R.T. Claim 37: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the server subsystem includes an address matching module for verifying an address entered by the user (see Supra Claim 11);

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W.R.T. Claim 38: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the installation wizard includes a GUI for the user to specify the type of connection to the computer network (see Supra Claim 12);

W.R.T. Claim 39: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the installation wizard includes a GUI for reporting error messages to the user (see Supra Claim 13);

W.R.T. Claim 40: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the installation wizard includes a GUI for canceling an installation process (see Supra Claim 14);

W.R.T. Claim 41: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the registration wizard includes a GUI for entering user information (see Supra Claim 15);

W.R.T. Claim 42: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the registration wizard includes a GUI for offering the user a plurality of service plan and for selecting by the user a service plan for choice (see Supra Claim 16);

W.R.T. Claim 43: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the registration wizard includes a GUI for reporting error messages to the user (see Supra Claim 17);

W.R.T. Claim 44: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the printing wizard includes a GUI for displaying a graphical image of a sample postage on an envelope (see Fig. 8);

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W.R.T. Claim 45: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the printing wizard includes a first GUI for printing a quality assurance VBI (see the window word application GUI);

W.R.T. Claim 47: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the printing wizard includes a GUI for troubleshooting selected printing options (see Id.);

W.R.T. Claim 48: The modified system of Kara discloses the system, wherein the printing wizard includes a GUI for providing envelope options (see Supra Claim 23);

W.R.T. Claim 49: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the printing wizard includes a GUI for providing label options (see Supra Claim 24);

W.R.T. Claim 50: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system, wherein the printing wizard includes a GUI for providing postage options (see Supra Claim 25);
and

W.R.T. Claim 51: The modified system of Kara further discloses the system wherein the GUI for managing includes a GUI for reporting error messages to the user (see Supra Claim 26).

As for Claim 46:

The modified system of Kara discloses the invention as cited above, but does not specifically disclose a second GUI for displaying selectable choices of the shape of printed sample VBI.

At the time the invention was made, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to a person of ordinary skill in the art to include a second GUI for displaying selectable choices of a printed quality assurance VBI because Applicant has not disclosed that having the limitation of Claim 46 provides an advantage, is used for a particular purpose, or solves a stated problem. One of ordinary skill in the art, furthermore, would have expected Applicant's invention to perform equally well with the modified system of Kara because the modified Kara discloses the system and method for registration, installation and printing the VBI, wherein the various GUI are utilized to execute the registration, installation and printing process, and it is well known in the art to include the other types of GUIs for executing the features as specified in Claims.

Therefore, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to further modify the modified system of Kara to obtain the invention as specified in claim.

W.R.T. Claim 52:

Kara discloses a method for printing a VBI, comprising the steps of:

displaying a first GUI by the client system for registering a user (see Supra registration and installation);

establishing communication with the server via the computer network (see Figs. 1 and 10);

entering user information in the first GUI (see Supra installation and registration);

communicating the entered user information to the server (see Figs. 1, 2, 7, 10);

and

transmitting an authorization message from the server to the client system over the network for authoring the client system to print the VBI (see Id.).

However, Kara does not expressly disclose the method including the steps of: verifying whether the user is running a latest software and downloading a new software update to the client subsystem, if there is a new user software.

Parthesarathy et al. teaches, for an auto updating system and method, that the system is verifying whether the user is running a latest software and downloading a new software update to the client subsystem, if there is a new user software (see Figs. 1-5 and the descriptions thereof).

At the time the invention, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method of Kara such that the method includes an auto update service for verifying whether the user is running a latest software and downloading a new software update to the client subsystem, if there is a new user software, as taught by Parthesarathy et al., for the purpose of providing the user of the auto update service so as to detect whether the user is running a latest software and downloading a new software update to the client subsystem, if there is a new user software.

W.R.T. Claim 53: The modified method of Kara further discloses the method including:

displaying a second GUI by the client system having printing options for managing the printing of the VBI (see Fig. 8 in Kara);

selecting one or more printing options from the second GUI; and

printing the VBI according to the selected option;

W.R.T. Claim 54: The modified method of Kara further discloses the method, wherein the VBI bears postage value;

W.R.T. Claim 57: The modified method of Kara further including displaying a third GUI for installing software for printing the VBI (see Figs. 1-2 in Kara);

W.R.T. Claim 58: The modified method of Kara further discloses method, wherein the step of displaying a first GUI includes a GUI for specifying a payment method (see Supra Claim 5);

W.R.T. Claim 59: The modified method of Kara further discloses method, wherein the step of displaying a first GUI includes a GUI for making changes to the user's information (see Supra Window).

W.R.T. Claim 60: The modified method of Kara further displaying a GUI for displaying the user information, account information (see Fig. 3 in Kara);

W.R.T. Claim 61: The modified method of Kara further discloses the method, wherein the account information includes an amount of credit left in the account (see Supra Claim 8);

W.R.T. Claim 62: The modified method of Kara further displaying a third GUI for specifying an address book from a plurality of address books to print the address (see Supra Claim 9);

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W.R.T. Claim 63: The modified method of Kara further displaying a third GUI for entering a password to store the entered password and verify the password in the server subsystem (see Supra Claim 10);

W.R.T. Claim 64: The modified method of Kara further verifying an address entered by the user (see Supra Claim 11);

W.R.T. Claim 65: The modified method of Kara further displaying a GUI for offering the user a plurality of service plan and for selecting by the user a service plan for choice (see Supra Claim 16);

W.R.T. Claim 66: The modified method of Kara further displaying a first GUI for reporting error messages to the user (see Supra Claim 13);

W.R.T. Claim 67: The modified method of Kara further displaying a GUI for canceling a registering process (see Supra Claim 14);

W.R.T. Claim 68: The modified method of Kara further includes displaying a second GUI for displaying a graphical image of the VBI (see Fig. 8);

W.R.T. Claim 69: The modified method of Kara further discloses the method wherein the GUI for managing includes a first GUI for printing a quality assurance VBI;

W.R.T. Claim 71: The modified method of Kara further discloses the method wherein the step of displaying a second GUI includes displaying a GUI for troubleshooting selected print options (see Supra Window)

W.R.T. Claim 72: The modified method of Kara further displaying a second GUI for providing envelope options (see Supra Claim 23);

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W.R.T. Claim 73: The modified method of Kara further displaying a second GUI for providing label options (see Supra Claim 24);

W.R.T. Claim 74: The modified method of Kara further includes the step of displaying a second GUI for providing postage options (see Supra Claim 25);

W.R.T. Claim 75: The modified method of Kara further discloses the method wherein the GUI for managing includes a GUI for reporting error messages to the user (see Supra Claim 26);

W.R.T. Claim 76: The modified method of Kara further displaying a second GUI for canceling a print process (see Supra Claim 27);

W.R.T. Claim 77: The modified method of Kara further displaying a second GUI for the user to withdraw the user's account (see Fig. 8 and the description thereof in Kara); and

W.R.T. Claim 78: The modified method of Kara further displaying a second GUI for communicating a message to the user (see Supra Window).

As for Claim 55-56, 70 and 79:

The modified Kara discloses the invention as cited above, but does not specifically disclose the subject matters of Claims 55-56, 70 and 79: wherein the VBI is a ticket; the VBI is one or more of a coupon, a voucher and a check; wherein the GUI for managing includes a second GUI for displaying selectable choices of a printed quality assurance VBI; and the steps of:

prompting the user to place an envelope in a printer;

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displaying a plurality of patterns, wherein only one of the plurality of patterns completely prints onto the envelope fed through the printer;

selecting one of the plurality of displayed patterns based upon which pattern appears to the user; and

ascertaining if the printer feeds envelopes from the top, center, or bottom based on the selected pattern.

At the time the invention was made, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to a person of ordinary skill in the art to: make a ticket, one or more of a coupon, a voucher and a check; and to include the steps of: "prompting the user to place an envelope in a printer; displaying a plurality of patterns, wherein only one of the plurality of patterns completely prints onto the envelope fed through the printer; selecting one of the plurality of displayed patterns based upon which pattern appears to the user; and ascertaining if the printer feeds envelopes from the top, center, or bottom based on the selected pattern" because Applicant has not disclosed that having the limitations of Claims 55-56, 70 and 79 provides an advantage, is used for a particular purpose, or solves a stated problem. One of ordinary skill in the art, furthermore, would have expected Applicant's invention to perform equally well with the modified Kara because the modified Kara discloses the system and method for registration, installation and printing the VBI, wherein the various GUI are utilized to execute the registration, installation and printing process, and it is well known in the art to include the other types of GUIs for executing the features as specified in Claims.

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Therefore, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to further modify the modified invention of Kara to obtain the invention as specified in claims.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

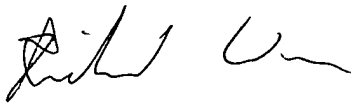
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Richard Woo whose telephone number is 703-308-7830. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM -5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on 703-308-2702. The fax phone numbers for

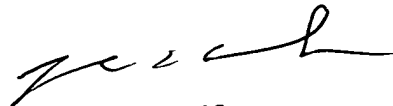
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the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306 for regular communications and After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0861.



Richard Woo
Patent Examiner
GAU 3629
October 18, 2004



JOHN G. WEISS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600